

***Phellinus pini* (Thore ex Fr.) – a new host fungus for *Abdera flexuosa* (Paykull) (Col.: Melandryidae)**

On a visit to a remnant of Mar Forest near the Linn of Dee, South Aberdeenshire on 1.vi.95, I came across a fruiting body of *Phellinus pini* on the fallen trunk of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris* L.). I broke off a small portion and, seeing that it contained a small white beetle pupa, collected a larger portion of the fungus in the hope of rearing adults for identification. This was soon achieved for, by the time I had returned to Epsom two weeks later, a number of examples of *Abdera flexuosa* had emerged.

As first recorded by Fowler (1891, *The Coleoptera of the British Islands*. vol. 5), the usual host for *A. flexuosa* in Britain is *Inonotus radiatus* (Sow. ex Fr.) Karst (= *Trametes radiatus*) growing on alder or, more rarely, birch. On the continent, it is reported similarly from *I. radiatus* growing on various deciduous trees including alder, beech, poplar, willow and plum and from *Phellinus ignarius* (L. ex Fr.) Quel. also on deciduous trees (Horion, 1956, *Faunistik der Mitteleuropäischen Käfer*. Band 5; Koch, 1989, *Die Käfer Mitteleuropas*. Ökologie Band 2). I have been unable, however, to find any mention of the beetle using as host *P. pini* or any other fungus growing on a coniferous tree. According to Reid and Austwick (1963, *Glasgow Naturalist* 18:255-336), *P. pini* is “not uncommon on conifers in the Scottish Highlands but rare in other parts of the British Isles.— J.A. OWEN, 8 Kingsdown Road, Epsom, Surrey KT17 3PU.

A new locality for *Photedes captiuncula* (Treitschke) (Lep.: Noctuidae) in Yorkshire

On 14 July 1995, whilst conducting a preliminary biological survey for the National Trust at a newly-acquired property in the Yorkshire Dales, two adults of *Photedes captiuncula* were swept from a north facing, limestone grassland bank adjacent to the Cowside Beck (grid ref: SD9069), Mid-west Yorkshire (VC64). A further two examples were seen shortly afterwards flying over the grassland in dull but warm weather, where a recorded foodplant (*Carex flacca* Schreber) was frequent within the sward. This site lies within an extensive area of high quality limestone grassland extending along the Cowside Beck to Arncliffe and beyond towards Grassington, where Sutton and Beaumont (1989, *Butterflies and moths of Yorkshire*. Yorkshire Naturalist's Union, Doncaster) report this species from Grass Wood – a well-known site eight kilometres or so to the south-east of the Cowside locality. In view of the extent of suitable limestone grassland, and the expanse of limestone pavement habitats present on the higher ground to the south of the Cowside site, further colonies of this moth may be predicted to occur elsewhere in the vicinity.

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